

**INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015**  
**11:30 AM**  
**MUNICIPAL PLAZA ROOM B**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Rey Saldaña, Chair, *District 4*  
Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, *District 5*  
Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*  
Councilmember Mike Gallagher, *District 10*

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**Members Absent:** Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, *District 8*

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**Staff Present:** Gloria Hurtado, *Assistant City Manager*; John Dugan, *Director, DPCD*; Mike Frisbie, *Director, TCI*; Terry Bellamy, *Assistant Director, TCI*; Rosalinda Diaz, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Also Present:** Gabriel Garcia, *City Attorney's Office*; Krystin Ramirez, *TCI*; Joe Mendoza, *TCI*; Trish Wallace, *TCI*; Bianca Thorpe, *TCI*; Greg Reininger, *TCI*; Jillian Harris, *TCI*; Lilly Banda, *TCI*; Tim Salas, *Council District 4*; Walter Ague, *Council District 8*

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**Call to Order**

Councilmember Medina called the meeting to order on behalf of Chairman Saldaña.

**1. Citizens to be Heard**

No Citizens were present to speak.

**2. Approval of Minutes for the January 21, 2015 Infrastructure and Growth Council Committee Meeting.**

Councilmember Gallagher moved to approve the Minutes for the January 21, 2015 Infrastructure and Growth Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**3. Briefing and update on the City Council Comprehensive Planning Committee's (CPC) progress.** [Peter Zanoni, Deputy City Manager; John Dugan, Director, Planning and Community Development]

John Dugan informed the Committee that the CPC had organized various Advisory Groups and held their first meeting at the Central Library on January 13, 2015. He noted that over 40 representatives from major institutions around the City were in attendance to discuss the growth plans for the Comprehensive Plan, Strategic Multimodal Transportation Plan, and Sustainability Plan. He noted that the Steering Committee's Role would be to meet with all the Plan Element Working Groups and then advise the City Council and Planning Committee on the policy recommendations.

Councilmember Gallagher stressed the importance of including the Airport in the transportation planning process. He explained that any development occurring around the Airport would influence the proposed recommendations. Mr. Dugan replied that all departments would have a role in facilitating discussions with all the Working Groups.

Councilmember Gonzales asked Mr. Dugan to describe the structure of the Committee. Mr. Dugan outlined the Committee's Structure and added that a chart was provided in their packet. He invited everyone to the Kick Off Meeting scheduled for April 11, 2015. He added that they expected over 1,000 people to attend the event.

No action was required for Item 3.

**4. Briefing on the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) as adopted by the Alamo Area Metropolitan Transportation Plan on December 8, 2014.** [Peter Zanoni, Deputy city Manager; Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation and Capital Improvements]

Terry Bellamy explained that the MTP would determine growth projections for transportation until the year 2040. He noted that the Plan would cover Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, and portions of Kendal Counties. He stated that the MTP was a constrained Plan; therefore, only projects with a funding source over the next 25 years could be added. He explained that five projects were approved for Category 7 totaling approximately \$90 million. He spoke of the other five roadway construction projects that were also approved for approximately \$41 million. He mentioned that the next step for the Plan was to receive input from the public and tie it all together with land use, economic development, environment, and health issues.

Chairman Saldaña entered the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Medina asked what plans were being developed for Bandera Road. Mr. Bellamy replied they had met with TxDOT to discuss what mechanisms and techniques could be implemented to alleviate congestion on Bandera Road.

Councilmember Gonzales asked where the funds had been allocated for the projects listed. Mr. Bellamy replied that funds were allocated through Proposition 1.

Chairman Saldaña asked Mr. Bellamy to provide a list of all projects approved through Proposition 1 to the Committee.

No action was required for Item 4.

**5. Briefing and update on the Pedestrian Safety Improvement Plan recommendations.** [Peter Zanoni, Deputy city Manager; Mike Frisbie, Director, Transportation and Capital Improvements]

Mr. Terry Bellamy outlined the Pedestrian Safety Improvement Plan. He spoke of the pedestrian improvements made in schools and how they were expanded into the community. He discussed the Crash Data received from the San Antonio Police Department concerning the increase of accidents involving pedestrians and bicycles. He noted that the data showed that fatal accidents

occurred more frequently from dusk to dawn (7PM to 7AM). He outlined the Five “E”s that would be introduced to improve safety for pedestrian and cyclists:

- Education – teach and inform school age children and the general public the importance of pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Encouragement – reinforce the importance of walking, bicycling, and driving in the community with informational materials and media coverage
- Engineering – implement various traffic and pedestrian devices to improve safety
- Enforcement – safety campaigns and initiatives with local law enforcement
- Evaluation – continue to evaluate and improve traffic safety

Mr. Bellamy spoke of the improvements being completed throughout the City, but emphasized that speed was key for safety. He explained how an increase in speed decreases the chance of survival. He noted that 50% of the United States had a Prima Facie Speed Limit of 25 MPH. He also discussed how funding would be spent on improvements for pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Chairman Saldaña spoke of the large number of pedestrian and bicycle fatalities in the City from January 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014. He discussed the creation of an ordinance to lower the traffic speed to 25 MPH in an effort to reduce the number of fatalities and spoke in support of the legislative approach to reduce the speed limit to 25 MPH.

Mike Frisbie explained that if there was no speed limit posted on a street, the speed limit defaults to 30 MPH. He stated that if the City passed an ordinance reducing the speed limit to 25 MPH, a sign would have to be erected on every street indicating the new speed limit. He noted that if legislation adopted the new speed limit, no signs would need to be posted by the City. He added that if passed, the City would have to educate and provide a warning period for the public to adjust to the new speed limit.

Councilmember Medina stated that the cost of purchasing signs should not be a factor when it comes to reducing the number of fatalities. He noted that reduction in speed saves lives, so he supported legislative action to reduce the speed limit in residential areas.

Mr. Frisbie noted that the biggest issues were in the major corridors. He discussed the following safety improvements used to reduce accidents at the major corridors:

- Placement of traffic signals to increase safety
- Place traffic calming devices to reduce speed
- Protective median islands to create shorter crossing distances
- Place bus stops closer to traffic lights to avoid crossing at median

Councilmember Gonzales spoke in support of legislative action to reduce the speed limit. She asked how the amount of funds for educating the public was determined. She also spoke of the concerns she had regarding the Culebra Corridor. Mr. Bellamy explained that funding for education was based on the cost of previous educational programs.

Chairman Saldaña asked what improvements were being implemented for the Culebra Corridor. Mr. Bellamy explained that a consultant had been hired to create a design to improve the Culebra Corridor. He added that the consultant had looked into the placement of the bus stops, occurrence of accidents, and identified where people crossed the intersection. He discussed the different options that could work in the area.

No action was required for Item 5.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Rey Saldaña, Chairman*

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*Rosalinda G. Diaz,  
Office of the City Clerk*